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MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

This checklist is provided to assist authors in the initial submission of their manuscript to *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A/B/C*. It serves as a quick reference guide to aid authors in the submission process and to avoid potential delays with the review process. While these requirements are recommended before the submission, the points mentioned in **bold** are mandatory, in the absence of which the manuscript will be unsubmitted.

- ✓ Mark the corresponding author(s) with an asterisk in the manuscript's author list, and include this person's e-mail address and phone number. Maintain consistency with the author names in the manuscript with the entries in the ACS Paragon Plus submission.
- ✓ Label the sections. For a regular article, this includes ([in this order](#)) Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Supporting Information, Acknowledgments, References, and TOC Image.
 - Other acceptable names for the Methods section include Experiment/Experimental Section, Theory, and Computational Details. The Results and Discussion sections could be presented as a single combined section.
- ✓ Authors including math, display or in-text, in their manuscripts are encouraged to consult the [ACS Guidelines for Presenting Mathematical Information](#). This style sheet provides a brief discussion of formatting related to the presentation of mathematical formulas, complete with examples of ACS style and layout. This document was developed to help authors anticipate how mathematical expressions will be formatted in the published version of the paper.
- ✓ References can be provided in any style. **Importantly, manuscript titles should be included in the references and there should only be one reference per citation.**
- ✓ If the manuscript includes any references to unpublished work (e.g., manuscripts in preparation or submitted for publication), upload such documents as Supporting Information for Review Only.
- ✓ Provide sufficient experimental and/or computational data for the reproducibility of results. Refer to the "[Data Requirements](#)" section for more information related primarily to theoretical and computational studies

Cover Letter should include

- ✓ Journal Part and Section, e.g., Part A, A4: New Tools and Methods in Experiment and Theory (Please note that the final decision on Journal Part and Section is up to the Editor handling the manuscript.)
- ✓ **A brief explanation of the manuscript's significance, including its originality, new physical insights, appropriateness for *JPC*, and contribution to new knowledge in the field.** Submission history should be provided if relevant.
- ✓ List of 5 recommended reviewers (institution, telephone number, and e-mail), with a short description of their relevant expertise. Provide the professional e-mail address for

recommended reviewers rather than “gmail” or other non-professional electronic addresses. For more information refer to the “[Cover Letter](#)” section.

When submitting the manuscript in ACS Paragon Plus...

- ✓ Ensure that the Journal Part and Section match correctly in the submission site.
- ✓ List all authors with their correct professional e-mail addresses. It is essential to provide accurate e-mail addresses as the co-authors will be notified about the submission. Entering inaccurate e-mail addresses will delay the review process.
- ✓ Ensure that all co-authors are aware of the submission. Refer to the Appendix for appropriate [Ethical Guidelines](#).
- ✓ The submitting author should enter his/her [ORCID](#) identifier.
- ✓ Do you have a cover art proposal? Refer to the “[Cover Art](#)” section for more details.
- ✓ Authors using LaTeX must provide a PDF version of the manuscript and upload as the “Manuscript PDF File”, in addition to the LaTeX source files (which may be archived as a zip file). Refer to the LaTeX manuscript preparation [webpage](#) for more details.

SCOPE OF THE JOURNAL

The Journal of Physical Chemistry A/B/C is devoted to reporting new and original experimental and theoretical basic research of interest to physical chemists, biophysical chemists, and chemical physicists. Review and Feature Articles, which include extensive discussions on previously published literature, are by invitation only (please refer to the next section on Manuscript Types). Journal Sections, which were revised in 2018, are listed below. An editorial that describes the changes made was published in: <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jpcc.8b01719>

An essential criterion for acceptance of research articles in the journal is that they provide **new physical insight**. Manuscripts that are essentially reporting data or applications of data are, in general, not suitable for publication in *JPC A/B/C*. However, JPC section A4 includes papers on New Tools and Methods in Experiment and Theory where the requirement for new physical insights is relaxed. See: <https://pubs.acs.org/page/jpcafh/vi/new-methods>. A Virtual Issue and Editorial concerned with new physical insights that summarizes 21 Viewpoint articles written by the editors was published in 2018. See: <https://pubs.acs.org/page/vi/jpc-new-physical-insights.html>.

***JPC A* (Isolated Molecules, Clusters, Radicals, and Ions; Environmental Chemistry, Geochemistry, and Astrochemistry; New Tools and Methods)**

- A1 Kinetics, Dynamics, Photochemistry, and Excited States
- A2 Spectroscopy, Molecular Structures, and Quantum Chemistry
- A3 Environmental, Combustion, and Atmospheric Chemistry; Aerosol Processes, Geochemistry, and Astrochemistry
- A4 New Tools and Methods in Experiment and Theory

JPC B (Biophysics, Biomaterials, Liquids, and Soft Matter)

- B1 Biophysics; Physical Chemistry of Biological Systems and Biomolecules
- B2 Biomaterials and Membranes
- B3 Liquids, Chemical and Dynamical Processes in Solution, Spectroscopy in Solution
- B4 Fluid Interfaces, Colloids, Polymers, Soft Matter, Surfactants, and Glassy Materials

JPC C (Energy Conversion and Storage; Catalysis; Optical, Electronic, and Magnetic Properties and Processes; Interfaces; Nanomaterials and Hybrid Materials)

- C1 Energy Conversion and Storage; Energy and Charge Transport
- C2 Surfaces, Interfaces, Porous Materials, and Catalysis
- C3 Plasmonics; Optical, Magnetic, and Hybrid Materials
- C4 Physical Processes in Nanomaterials and Nanostructures

Guidelines for Nanomaterial Papers

To be appropriate for publication in *JPC A/B/C*, nanomaterial papers should demonstrate an improved understanding of a physical process. Papers that emphasize nanomaterial synthesis and characterization are not appropriate for the Journal. However papers that present new experimental methods can be published in section A4.

Guidelines for Theoretical or Computational Papers

To be appropriate for publication in *JPC A/B/C*, theory papers must satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

1. provide significant new physical insight into an experimentally relevant system or process
2. present a new theoretical or computational methodology of general interest (section A4)

Papers that do not present new methodology; and that report results of computational studies without attention to the insights that are obtained from the study, or that do not make connections to properties with experimentally measurable consequences are not appropriate for the Journal of Physical Chemistry.

MANUSCRIPT TYPES

Note that all Letters or Communications should be submitted to *The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters*.

Articles should report original research having significant new physical insight that is expected to have a definable impact on the advancement of science, technology, and the field of physical chemistry. Manuscripts should cover the research with thoroughness and clarity but should be as concise as

possible. Articles are scheduled for publication in the order of acceptance within limitations of available space. A table of contents (TOC) graphic is required for use in the Web edition of the journal.

Feature Articles are usually published by invitation. However, authors in important and active research fields of interest to physical chemists are encouraged to propose such articles.

Two-page proposals should be sent to the Deputy Editor of the corresponding journal section for consideration. Contact information for the Deputy Editors can be found on the journal's homepages or the masthead of each journal section.

For Feature Article submissions, the author should provide a clear, concise, and critical status report of the field as an introduction to the article. The author's own contribution and its relationship to other work in the field should constitute the main body of the article. Controversies, if they exist, should also be outlined. Possible future directions and the significance of the research area to the field of physical chemistry should be pointed out. Feature Articles are limited to ~8 printed pages (equivalent to ~40 pages of double-space-typed text with figures, tables, references). A brief biography for each author of the Feature Article must be included. Photograph(s) may also be included with the biography. A TOC graphic is required for use in the Web edition of the journal. Authors of Feature Articles will be invited to provide an image to appear on the cover of the issue in which the Feature Article appears at no cost to the author.

Review Articles are published by invitation. They are strictly reviews of active and rapidly changing fields with little or no new data reported. They are ~8 pages long (~40 typed pages). Authors are encouraged to submit two-page proposals to the Deputy Editor of the corresponding journal section for consideration. A brief biography for each author of the Review Article must be included. Photograph(s) may also be included with the biography. A TOC graphic is required for use in the Web edition of the journal. Authors of Review Articles will be invited to provide an image to appear on the cover of the issue in which the Review Article appears at no cost to the author.

Mini-Review Articles are invited short reviews that focus on a specific area. They are ~4 pages long (~20 typed pages), and include a brief biography. Authors must submit a proposal to the Deputy Editor of the corresponding journal section for consideration. A TOC graphic is required for use in the Web edition of the journal.

Viewpoints are typically 1–2 journal page editorial content written by experts in the field who can provide insight and commentary on topics of broad interest for the community. Topics range from opinions about experimental or theoretical methods, assessment of policy issues or educational topics, and information about past meetings. Interested authors should contact the Editor-in-Chief or one of the Deputy Editors.

Comments are significant remarks on work previously published in *JPC A/B/C/Letters* and are restricted to approximately one page (1000 words or equivalent) including tables, figures, and text. There is no abstract. Comments are subject to critical review. If Comments are concerned with the work of other authors, the Editors will generally permit those authors to reply if approved by the Reviewers. It is

essential that the discussion focus on scientific issues in both the Comment and the Reply. Comments on papers more than five years old, or to papers in other journals, are not allowed.

Special Issues are published throughout the year. These issues may be a Memorial, Festschrift, or collection of papers from a Meeting or Symposium. *JPC A/B/C* also publishes Special Sections, which are placed at the front of an issue (followed by regular journal content). Suggestions for Special Issue or Special Section topics may be directed to the Deputy Editors of the corresponding journal section. As a general guideline, full Special Issues contain at least 40 Articles, and Special Sections have approximately 20 Articles. **Virtual Special Issues** are special issues in which the manuscripts are published soon after they are accepted, and the collection exists as a webpage rather than a single issue of the journal. For Virtual Special Issues, the front matter and editorial material will be published as part of a regular issue and will serve as an announcement of the availability of the Virtual Special Issue. We are currently transitioning Special Issues to be Virtual Special Issues, with all *JPC A* Special Issues now being virtual.

Virtual Issues are online collections selected by Editors to highlight previously published research on areas of current scientific interest. The collections not only span the different parts of *JPC* but also include content from other ACS journals. They are designed as an informative tool for experienced investigators and students about diverse areas of the chemical sciences. A full Virtual Issue typically contains 25 articles, with related cover art and an editorial by the Editors.

ACS PUBLISHING CENTER

While this document will provide basic information on how to prepare and submit the manuscript as well as other critical information about publishing, we also encourage authors to visit the [ACS Publishing Center](#) for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals, such as

1. [Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication](#) which shares editor tips about a variety of topics including making your paper scientifically effective, preparing excellent graphics, and writing cover letters.
2. Resources on [how to prepare and submit a manuscript](#) to ACS Paragon Plus, ACS Publications' manuscript submission and peer review environment.
3. [Sharing your research](#) with the public through ACS Publications open access program

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Review Ready Submission

All ACS journals have simplified their formatting requirements in favor of a streamlined and standardized review-ready format for an initial manuscript submission. Read more about the requirements and the benefits these serves authors and reviewers [here](#). Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration must adhere to these standards:

1. Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
2. Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text at the point of relevance. Separate graphics can be supplied later at revision, if necessary.
3. A two-column manuscript template is available and can be used for manuscripts submitted to any ACS journal. Templates are not required but may be useful to approximate how an article will compose. For manuscripts with word count limits, authors are not required to fit content into a page limit based on the template.

- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles.
- Supporting Information should be submitted as a separate file(s).
- Author names and affiliations on the manuscript must match what is entered into ACS.

Document Templates and Format

The templates facilitate the peer review process by allowing authors to place artwork and tables close to the point where they are discussed within the text. Learn more about document templates [here](#).

General information on the preparation of manuscripts may also be found in [The ACS Style Guide](#).

Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of [Acceptable Software](#) and appropriate [File Designations](#) to be sure your file types are compatible with ACS Paragon Plus. Information for manuscripts generated from [TeX/LaTeX](#) is also available.

Cover Letter

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript submission. During the submission process, you may type it or paste it into the submission system, or you may attach it as a file.

Please use official letterhead of the author's affiliation that lists the telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address. The cover letter must include all of the following points:

- Manuscript title.
- For all authors, provide name (full name preferred), address, telephone number, and current institution e-mail address. All authors must have accounts in ACS Paragon Plus. The corresponding author is preferably a senior author (Professor, Research Associate, or similar), rather than a student.
- Manuscript type (Article, Feature Article, Review Article, Comment, Special Issue, or Addition/Correction).
- Journal Part and Section that is most appropriate for your manuscript based on scope. [Please note that the final decision on Journal Part and Section remains with the Editors.]
- Explanation of the manuscript's significance, including its originality, new physical insights or method development, appropriateness for *JPC*, and contribution to new knowledge in the field.**
- List five recommended reviewers for the manuscript, and provide a short description of their relevant expertise.** Include the institution, telephone number, and professional e-mail addresses (if possible avoid using gmail addresses) for each suggested Reviewer. Do not suggest *JPC* Editors as reviewers. The Editors may also use reviewers of their own choosing.
- Note if there are back-to-back or other multipart manuscripts being submitted. However, the submission of more than two coupled manuscripts is greatly discouraged.
- Notification if the manuscript contains a dedication statement.
- Notification if the manuscript has been uploaded to an electronic archive, with details.

When submitting manuscripts in ACS Paragon Plus, authors should do the following, some of which duplicates the information in the Cover Letter:

- Ensure that the Journal Part and Section match. [Please note that the final decision on Journal Part and Section is up to the Editor handling the manuscript.]
- List all authors and correct title (e.g., undergraduate student, graduate student, Post Doc, Research Associate, Professor) in ACS Paragon Plus with correct e-mail address.
- List all authors on the manuscript correctly with current and accurate e-mail addresses for each. It is essential to provide correct e-mail addresses for coauthors because ACS Paragon Plus will notify these authors via e-mail that the manuscript has been submitted. Entering inaccurate e-mail addresses will delay the review process if coauthors cannot be contacted. Use of fictitious e-mail addresses will be considered an ethical violation.
- Ensure that all coauthors are aware of the submission. [See [Ethical Guidelines](#) for details.]
- If the manuscript is written in Microsoft Word, turn off the “Line Numbers and Track Changes” feature (after accepting or rejecting all changes) before uploading into ACS Paragon Plus.
- Accurately answer custom questions about prior submission history.

Include a Table of Contents Graphics image. TOCs should not contain offensive material, and copyright permission may be required if material has been published elsewhere.

Manuscript Text Components

The various sections of the manuscript should be assembled in the following sequence:

- Manuscript Title (in Title Case), Authorship, and Affiliations (single page)
- Abstract (single page, labeled)
- Introduction
- Experimental and/or Theoretical Methods
- Results and Discussion
- Conclusions
- Supporting Information Description
- Acknowledgment
- References (Manuscript titles should be provided and they should be in Title Case or sentence case. Mixed cases are not acceptable.)
- Table of Contents Image (at the end of the manuscript) and labeled accordingly.
- Author Biographies (for Feature Articles & Review Articles only)
- Supporting Information: submitted as separate files and not repeated in the manuscript (proposed cover art images should be submitted as Supporting Information for Review Only)

Title

The title should be specific and informative and be in Title Case. Using keywords in the title assists in effective literature retrieval. The title, authorship, and institutional affiliations should be included on a single page. Avoid using common phrases such as “investigation”, “study”, “demonstration”, or “performance evaluation”, uncommon acronyms, and words such as “First”, “Novel”, “Facile”, and “One Pot” in the title and abstract.

Authorship

Be consistent in authorship designation on the manuscript and on all correspondence. First name, middle initial, and last name are preferred for correct identification, but omit titles. Give the complete mailing address of the institution where the work was conducted and identify the affiliation of each author. If the current address of an author is different, include it in a footnote on the title page. The corresponding author to whom inquiries about the paper should be addressed must be marked with an

asterisk; provide the telephone number and e-mail address of this correspondent. All authors are notified by e-mail when the manuscript is assigned to an Editor.

Abstract

The abstract should be a clear, concise, one paragraph summary (100–200 words). It should be informative rather than descriptive, giving scope, purpose, experimental approach, significant results, and major conclusions. Do not cite references or refer to tables, figures, or other sections of the paper in the abstract. Do not use graphics, equations, or tables in the Abstract because this material will not display in secondary sources (e.g., *Chemical Abstracts*). Abbreviations and acronyms should be defined upon first usage. Authors' abstracts are used directly for *Chemical Abstracts*.

Introduction

Discuss relationships of the study to previously published work but do not reiterate or attempt to provide a complete literature survey. The purpose or reason for the research being reported and its significance, originality, or contribution to new knowledge in the field should be clearly and concisely stated. Do not include or summarize current findings in this section.

Experimental and/or Theoretical Methods

General Information. Complicated chemical equations, schemes, and structures should be supplied as artwork, ready for publication. Schemes and charts should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Capital, lowercase, and Greek letters should be easily discernible or identified if ambiguity might result. Complicated superscripts and subscripts should be avoided. Tables, Figures, and Figure Captions should be embedded within the Experimental/Theoretical Methods section.

Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the experimental details section of the full article or communication.

Results/Discussion

Results and Discussion may be presented in separate sections or combined into a single section, whichever format conveys the results in the most lucid fashion. The author should discuss the significance of observations, measurements, or computations and should also point out how these contribute to the scientific objectives indicated in the Introduction. Tables, Figures, and Figure Captions should be embedded within the text.

Conclusions

A brief summary should be given for the principal conclusions of the work.

Appendices

The inclusion of appendices is generally discouraged and should only be used when a specific equation or result needs to be derived and when there is a compelling reason for not including that information in the Supporting Information.

Acknowledgment/Dedication

Acknowledgments of financial assistance for the conduct of research, citations of theses, or indications of presentation at a research meeting should be brief and placed in this section. Acknowledgments to specific individuals who contributed to the science are allowed. Dedications are not recommended and must reference scientific contributions. Statements deemed inappropriately personal will be removed

by the Journal office staff. Because Festschrift issues already honor an individual, dedications to the honoree should not be included in individual manuscripts.

Author Biographies

Feature Articles and Review (and Mini-Review) Articles include a brief biography for each author of the paper. Biographies should contain approximately four to five sentences describing the author's education, previous and current positions, and scientific interests. Photograph(s) are optional but welcome. Photos of authors posed individually are acceptable; however, if more than five authors wish to include photographs, a group picture is required. Biographies (and photographs) are to be submitted as part of the manuscript.

Supporting Information

This information is provided to the reviewers during the peer-review process (for Review Only) and is available to readers of the published work (for Publication). Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript. See the list of [Acceptable Software by File Designation](#) and confirm that your Supporting Information is [viewable](#).

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, these files will be made available free of charge to readers. A brief description of each file is required, and the paragraph and descriptions should be placed at the end of the manuscript before the list of references. The appropriate format is as follows:

Supporting Information. Brief descriptions in nonsentence format listing the contents of the files supplied as Supporting Information.

When including supporting information for review only, include copies of references that are unpublished or in-press. These files are available only to editors and reviewers.

Data Requirements

Reproducibility of Results

It is essential that papers provide enough information so that calculations and experiments can be reproduced by others. We encourage authors to use Supporting Information for this purpose, which is publicly available free of charge on the internet upon publication, regardless of whether or not the accompanying article is made open access.

Guidelines for Computational Results

Below are the general guidelines from *Pure Appl. Chem.* 1998, 70, No. 10, 2047–2049 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1351/pac199870102047>) for manuscripts reporting the results of electronic structure calculations, force field parameters, and other potential energy surface information. Further details are listed in the guidelines authored by J. E. Boggs (*Pure Appl. Chem.* 1998, 70, No. 4, 1015–1018 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1351/pac199870041015>)). Both sets of guidelines can be viewed online at <http://iupac.org/publications/pac/reports/year/1998/>. While these papers refer to electronic structure and molecular dynamics calculations, the concepts stated below apply to all calculations.

- If a paper mentions any calculations that are integral to the study (i.e., the precise quantitative results are central to the conclusions drawn) computational details must be described.

- Reproducibility of computations should be a defining goal in reporting computational results. Sufficient technical details should be provided to allow a reader to reproduce the results of any calculations. Of course, strict reproducibility of computations may be precluded by differences among computers (e.g., differences in operating systems, host-based algorithms, machine precision, etc.), software (e.g., installation procedures and programming modifications), and applications (e.g., for probabilistic methods such as Monte Carlo calculations).
- A description of the results of any published calculation must be available for scientific scrutiny by other investigators. Ordinarily this will best be achieved if the authors place full details of the calculation (e.g., structures, energies, frequencies, dynamical quantities, etc.) in a repository (such as Supporting Information to the paper) that is accessible via the Internet. Otherwise, it is the responsibility of the investigator to make such information available upon request. Depending on the specific circumstances, the appropriate data to be deposited might be final output structure(s) or the input structure(s) that would allow another investigator to replicate the computational experiment.
- Electronically deposited structures should be written in a format that is machine readable by readily available modelling or translating programs.
- An adequate specification of the computer program used to carry out the calculations is essential. If the calculations were carried out with commercially available software, the investigator must list the source, version number, and force field employed. Any program modifications and any differences from the published version (including changes in parameters) must be fully described or available to other investigators upon request. Changes in parameters, program options (e.g., dielectric constant, nonbonded cutoffs, etc.) affecting reproducibility of the calculation, and program constraints must be fully described in the article. If the program is not available, commercially or otherwise, the authors must specify sufficient detail that the calculation could be reproduced.
- The issue of convergence must be adequately addressed. An iterative calculation is considered to have converged when further iterations will not significantly alter the results. Convergence criteria should be reported (e.g., energy change per iteration or energy gradient for geometry optimization of a single structure).

Guidelines for Experiments

Authors are expected to provide sufficient detail to enable a trained professional to reproduce routine measurements and synthetic procedures. Authors are required to provide crystallographic or surface structure data as Supporting Information in crystallographic information file (CIF) format. For quantitative optical measurements, the specifics and usable range of the photodetector should be reported.

Teams of ACS editors have identified best practices in certain fields to guide authors in the reporting of experimental results. Please refer to them, as needed:

- Best Practices for the Reporting of Colloidal Inorganic Nanomaterials (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.chemmater.5b02323>)
- Best Practices for Reporting on Energy Storage (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acsami.5b06029>)
- Best Practices in Perovskite Solar Cell Efficiency Measurements. Avoiding the Error of *Making Bad Cells Look Good* (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jpcllett.5b00289>)
- Best Practices for Reporting on Heterogeneous Photocatalysis (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/am504389z>)

- Best Practice in Photocatalysis: Comparing Rates of Apparent Quantum Yields? (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jpcllett.5b00521>)

Language and Editing Services

A well-written paper helps share your results most clearly. ACS Publications' [English Editing Service](#) is designed to help scientists communicate their research effectively. Our subject-matter expert editors will edit your manuscript for grammar, spelling, and other language errors so your ideas are presented at their best.

Preparing Graphics

The quality of illustrations in ACS journals depends on the quality of the original files provided by the authors. Figures are not modified or enhanced by journal production staff. All graphics must be prepared and submitted in digital format.

Graphics should be inserted into the main body whenever possible. Please see Appendix 2 for additional information.

Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should include a [credit line](#) citing the original source. Authors are responsible for [obtaining written permission](#) to re-use this material.

Figure and Illustration Services

The impact of your research is not limited to what you can express with words. Tables and figures such as graphs, photographs, illustrations, diagrams, and other visuals can play a significant role in effectively communicating your findings. Our [Figures service](#) generates publication-ready figures that conform to your chosen journal's specifications. This includes changes to file type, resolution, color space, font, scale, line weights, and layout (to improve readability and professional appearance).

PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

Manuscripts, graphics, supporting information, and required forms, as well as manuscript revisions, must all be submitted in digital format through [ACS Paragon Plus](#), which requires an ACS ID to log in. Registering for an ACS ID is fast, free, and does not require an ACS membership. Please refer to Appendix 1 for additional information on preparing your submission.

Prior Publication Policy

The Journal of Physical Chemistry authors are allowed to deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint service such as ChemRxiv, arXiv, bioRxiv, or the applicable repository for their discipline prior to submission. Please note any use of a preprint server in the Cover Letter, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission. The use of a preprint service will not bias reviewing/acceptance of the paper in *JPC*. Upon publication, authors are advised to add a link from the preprint to the published paper via the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Redundant publication, such as the use of a repository for *published* versions of papers, is subject to the Journal Publication Agreement and generally requires copyright permission.

Editorial Policies

Editorial Peer Review Process

The Editors may exercise their prerogative to reject a manuscript without peer review if that paper is judged to be outside the scope of the Journal, poorly written or formatted, fragmentary and marginally incremental, lacking in significance, or containing no obvious new physical insight.

All submitted manuscripts are reviewed and handled by the Editor-in-Chief, Deputy Editors, and/or Senior Editors. The Senior Editor and his or her Editorial Assistant are then responsible for the assigned manuscripts, including acknowledging receipt, evaluating the content of the paper, selecting reviewers, monitoring the progress of the review process, evaluating the comments of reviewers and forwarding them to the authors for their response, communicating ultimate acceptance or rejection to the corresponding author, carrying out a final check of accepted manuscripts for appropriate format and style, and forwarding accepted manuscripts to the publications office.

The Editors seek the scientific advice of reviewers who are active in the research area covered by the manuscript. The reviewers act only in an advisory capacity, and the final decision concerning a manuscript is the responsibility of the Editors. The reviewers are asked to comment on the following: (1) significance and originality of the work, (2) broad appeal to physical chemists, (3) how well the conclusions are supported by the data, (4) clarity of the paper, and (5) the extent to which the paper provides new physical insights. All reviews are anonymous, and the reviewing process is most effective if reviewers do not reveal their identities to the authors. An exception arises in connection with a manuscript submitted for publication in the form of a Comment on the work of another author. Under such circumstances, the author whose work is being commented on will, in general, be allowed to review the communication and to write a Reply if deemed necessary. The Reply and the original communication will be “refereed” and, if accepted, will be published together in the same issue.

A manuscript sent back to an author for revision should be returned to the Editor without delay. Manuscripts that are not returned by the date given in the Editor's decision letter will expire. When a manuscript expires, it will no longer be available on the author's Paragon Plus homepage. When this occurs, the revised manuscript must be resubmitted as a new submission. The cover letter should indicate the previous manuscript number and offer a response to the comments of the reviewers. The manuscript will be processed as a revision with a new manuscript number and date of submission.

Revised manuscripts are generally sent back to the original reviewers, who are asked to comment on the revisions. If only minor revisions are involved, the Editor may examine the revised manuscript in light of the recommendations of the reviewers without seeking further opinions. The author should provide a cover letter with the revised manuscript containing responses to all of the reviewers' comments and detailing, in a point-by-point manner, the revisions to the manuscript. The dates of receipt of the original and the revised manuscripts will both appear in publication. If using highlighting, bolding, italics, or markings of any kind to indicate changes made in response to the reviews of your manuscript, we ask that you upload the marked-up copy as “Supporting Information for Review Only” and provide an unmarked version as the official revised manuscript submission.

Providing Potential Reviewer Names

Please suggest five reviewers. Authors are encouraged to avoid suggesting reviewers from the authors' institutions. Do not suggest reviewers who may have a [real or perceived conflict of interest](#). Whenever possible, suggest academic email addresses rather than personal email addresses.

Manuscript Transfer

If your submission is declined for publication by this journal, the editors might deem your work to be better suited for another ACS Publications journal and suggest that the authors consider transferring the submission. [Manuscript Transfer](#) simplifies and shortens the process of submitting to another ACS journal, as all the coauthors, suggested reviewers, manuscript files, and responses to submission questions are copied by ACS Paragon Plus to the new draft submission. Authors are free to accept or decline the transfer offer.

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Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

1. Black and white line art 1200 dpi
2. Grayscale art 600 dpi
3. Color art 300 dpi

Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format. Single-column graphics can be sized up to 240 points wide (3.33 in.) and double-column graphics must be sized between 300 and 504 points (4.167 in. and 7 in.). The maximum depth for all graphics is 660 points (9.167 in.) including the caption (allow 12 pts. For each line of caption text). Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point.

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Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

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Figures

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description must be included below each figure. The caption should be understandable without reference to the text. It is preferable to place any key to symbols used in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the artwork.

Charts

Charts (groups of structures that do not show reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents

Tables

Each table must have a brief (one phrase or sentence) title that describes the contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly in the narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful inter-relationships can be conveyed by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise.

Schemes

Each scheme (sequences of reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents.

Chemical Structures

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